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The Parents' Newsletter

A Selwyn House School Publication

December 1996

Nuno Tang, 5B

SCHOOL NEWS

More Than Just Peanuts

School Kicks Off its Annual Campaign to Raise Money for the Kidney Foundation

By Maria Tratt

photo by: Maria Tratt

François Bergon, 11C, Roberto Bellini, 11C, Nick Yanow, 11B, and Eric Blake, 10B

Selwyn House School's annual campaign to raise money for the Kidney Foundation kicked off with its peanuts sale - to the tune of $1,911.

High sales and good profits characterized this year's drive as Nancy Allard-Coutu, campaign organizer, and SHS Grade 10 français langue seconde raked in $90 from their September 25 pizza and soft drink sale, all of which sold within ten minutes!

This success was followed by another when, on October 4, a chocolate bake sale was held. Mme Allard-Coutu's class filled the tables in the Macaulay building with an array of tasty treats, ranging from fudge to chocolate covered granola bars, which garnered another $70 for the Foundation.

This year's grand total of $2,071 secured SHS's position as the leading Canadian school for the Kidney Foundation.

This is the third year that Selwyn has held this coveted honour.

Furthermore, Selwyn has outdone itself in its astonishing sale of an extra eight cases of peanuts over last year's 22 case total - 600 bags of peanuts!

Thank you to all those who supported the School in its aim: homeroom teachers, faculty, staff, and parents, and a special thanks to Mme Allard-Coutu and the Grade 10s.

Open House

Selwyn Puts On its Best Face and Wins Smiles

By Sylvie Bastien-Doss

This year's October Open House involved an astonishing 60 dedicated teachers, 27 enthusiastic Selwyn House Tour Guides, 15 energetic volunteer parents, and 550 welcoming students from Kindergarten to Grade 11.

Visitors received a healthy dose of this collective energy and discovered what an exceptional educational environment Selwyn House provides its students and staff.

Thank you to everyone who lent a hand: the kitchen and maintenance staff, the Records and Development Office, receptionists, secretaries, librarians and Argyle Shop volunteer mothers, all of whom contributed generously to its success.

Events to come:

Open House for prospective families

Thursday, January 23, 1997
9:00AM-12:00PM and
7:00PM to 8:00PM

Kindergarten-Gr. 4
Entrance Exams
January and February 1997
by appointment

Grades 5 to 11 Entrance Exams
Saturday, February 15, 1997

Scholarship Exams
Saturday, February 22, 1997

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Garage Sale Opened its Doors to Eager SHS Parents and Friends

By Valerie Brooks

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Through the cooperative efforts of the wonderful garage sale committee, Selwyn House staff, Selwyn students and over 150 Selwyn House parents, the 1996 Garage Sale was a resounding success. We had an exceptional turnout from the SHS community and our thanks go out to all of you.

An astounding number of quiches and lasagnas (310 and 300 respectively) were made by a team of dedicated volunteer parents and students. The raffle offered more than 90 great prizes to be won and the big winner ($1,000) was the McKinney family - congratulations. Our first mini-silent auction also drew great interest.

At Founder's Day on November 27, the Montreal Children's Hospital - Oncology Department, Westmount Park School and St. Columba House were presented with cheques of $4,000, $2,000, and $1,000 respectively. Le Bon Dieu dans la rue, an organization that aids runaway children, was the recipient of over 100 pairs of shoes, and the balance of the proceeds from the garage sale will be used by Selwyn students for their trip fund.

Thank you again for your efforts and invaluable support.

See you next year!

photo by: Monty Krindle

SHS student volunteers helped to prepare 310 quiches and 300 lasagnas.

photo by: Maria Tratt

Maria Zammit sorts through donations.

Terry Fox Figures Run High

By Steve Mitchell

On Friday, October 11, at 10:30 A.M. the students collaborated in an effort that brought the entire school together when they congregated at King George Park Field for their ninth annual Terry Fox Run.

photo by: Mike Durcak, 11C

Seniors run with Selwyn's youngest.

Our programme went into effect on September 23 when each homeroom teacher received a package to cover in class. As well, flags, posters, and videos in both French and English were available to teachers who wished to discuss Terry's dream in detail.

With the assistance of our devoted P.E. department, the course was prepared for all those who arrived to run their predesignated laps. The weather cooperated, and students from Kindergarten to Grade 11 successfully completed their distances to honour our pledges.

Highlights included the SHS Senior football team running alongside students from Kindergarten to Grade 4, Coach Paoletti's early run on Mount Royal for enthusiastic parents and staff members, and the large number of Grade 1 and 2 parents who attended the race to cheer everyone on.

Selwyn has a history of dedication to this event, and this year was no exception: our community rallied together to raise $20,554.00, bringing our total donations for the past seven years to a remarkable $115,198.06!

The generosity of this community is to be commended for inspiring SHS to help keep Terry's dream for a cure for cancer alive.

Special recognition also goes to all home room teachers, Marc and Christine Krushelnyski, Marty Boyle, Peter Govan, Mike Maurovich, Alf Paoletti, and Debbie Dragone for their extra effort.

Mystery Guest Visits the Elementary Assembly

By Roman Pylat

Every Tuesday morning, between 9:00 and 9:15, the third floor of the Lucas building of Selwyn House resounds to the songs and laughter of the youngest members of the school community. Grades K, 1, and 2 gather in a small weekly assembly to foster a sense of belonging by enjoying a morning divertimento together. Conceived by the teachers of the grades as a wonderful way for students to bond with each other and the staff as well, Tight Squeeze Tuesdays are in their second year. They are the venue for presentations and discussions on aspects of life at Selwyn House as lived by five, six, seven, and eight year olds. The 'tight squeeze' takes place as the boys jostle together for the best ear and eye view.

The students are gradually introduced to the important members of the school staff. Mme Anne-Marie Snabl, the Front Office receptionist, Ms. Bonnie Macdonald, the Elementary School secretary, and M. Normand Brault, the school chef, have all graced the mini-assemblies with their presence, and each in their own warm and winning ways have explained some of their many responsibilities to the boys. More surprise visitors are on their merry way. The students responded to each visit with an enthusiastic welcome and the intangible but eternal thank-you gift of a song.

photo by: Maria Tratt

Mme Snabl delights a captive audience.

Tight Squeeze Tuesdays are also the occasions for the handing out of awards four times in the course of the school year. A certificate for Intellectual Curiosity and one for Positive Influence within the Classroom recognize the striving for excellence at all three of the early grade levels of the elementary school. Maternelle students achieve recognition for Progrès remarquables en français as well. The students are able to congratulate their peers for their achievements in this special forum. In the interests of mutual cooperation, the students are reminded of rules, especially the one about "no physical contact" at any time, which is reinforced with reference to any playtime in the East yard.

But most of all, the assemblies provide the scene of many magical and memorable moments. New songs are learned and the old ones revived. The latest and the finest children's literature is presented to a most appreciative audience. Storytelling, puppetry, music, and class project presentations regale young minds and expand their horizons. The results are a renewed sense of school spirit and a delightful harmony among the newest of the future 'Old Boys' of Selwyn.

Volunteer Mothers Dish It Out

By Maria Zammit

Hats off to all the boys in K-4 who make lunch supervision for the parent volunteers such a pleasant experience. Starting this past September, due to an interest expressed by parents, Selwyn House offers lunchroom supervision for all those who dare to venture into the "Unknown." I immediately volunteered, hoping to discover how all the food stains on my sons' blazers magically reappear day after day. I must admit to my apprehension on the morning of my first lunch duty. I entertained the thought of donning a shield, but opted for a pair of old jeans and an apron. To my delight and surprise, I realized that the stains on the blazers were a result of minor mishaps as opposed to my visions of food fights. I am extremely impressed with the responsibility and politeness of all the boys, especially the Grade 4 boys who are the monitors and servers at each table. In addition to bringing the big trays to and from the kitchen, they also fill each lunch plate at their table.

The addition of parent volunteers adds a nice touch to this tradition. It allows us to interact with the boys in another aspect of their school life and also provides a home-style atmosphere at lunch time. I have experienced many interesting conversations with

photo by: Maria Tratt

Frankenstein (Maria Zammit) and her lunch dates.

the boys and have been given the opportunity to meet boys that I would otherwise not have. Over the past several weeks, I have even managed to get the boys to at least try some of Selwyn's newest culinary delights.

All of the parent volunteers whom I have met are equally enthusiastic. On Halloween, the boys were even treated to a clown, a swashbuckler, a Frankenstein, and the "Cat in the Hat" as lunch supervisors.

To all those parents who would like to volunteer, I would say that it is time well spent, and much appreciated by the boys. To all those who presently take part in lunch supervision, keep up the good work. It is such a pleasure to share this duty with such spirited people. Thank you to Selwyn House for giving us all a chance to dine with the boys. I am having a great time and learning a great deal from my new lunch mates.

Mr. and Mrs. Zammit have two sons at Selwyn, Anthony, 6B, and Dominick, 2B.

photo by: Maria Tratt

Guest clown livens up first lunch.

Elementary Certificates - October '96 Recipients

Progrès remarquables en français
Michael Bibeau (KA), Tristano Tenaglia (KB)

Influence positive sur la classe
Derek Burrows (KA), Marc Heron (KB)

Curiosité intellectuelle
Geoffrey Matheson (KA), Christopher Day (KB)

Positive Influence in the Classroom
Theodore Farmiga (1A), Dylan Brophy (1B),
Jason Leopold (2A), Kyle Burrows (2B)

Intellectual Curiosity
William Harris (1A), Mark Mettler-Warner (1B),
Jonas Briedis (2A), Robert Hinrichsen (2B)

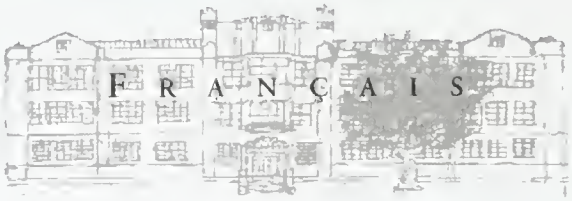
Positive Attitude and Commitment Toward Learning
Christopher Wong (3A), Philip Clark (3A),
Patrick Malouf (3B), Kyle Spiller (3B),
Michael Lazar (4A), Jeffrey Usher-Jones (4A),
William Martin-Chin (4B), Lee Rovinescu (4B)

Responsible Attitude Towards Himself and Others
Sammy Hammouda (3A), Charles-Alexandre Vennat (3A),
Simon Leblanc (3B), Nicholas Thorpe (3B),
Paul Tsoukas (4A), Alexis Youssef (4A),
Sean Brophy (4B), David Smucker (4B)

Progrès remarquables en français
Jonathan Bloomfield (5A), José Castroviejo (5A),
Thomas Spencer (5A),
Richard Kwee (5B), Nuno Tang (5B),
Alex Salle (6A), Edward Cho (6A), Francesco DiMuro (6A),
Jacob Harris (6B), Eitaro Suzuki (6B)

Attitude positive face à l'apprentissage
Justin Bourke (5A), Andrew Doyle (5A),
Martin Brulé-Brosseau (5A),
Michael Grover (5B), Adam Sternthal (5B),
Alex Weinberg (5B), Corey Zalcman (5B),
Pierre Bergon (6A), Stéphane Côté (6A),
Bobby Chon (6B), Garrison Mason (6B),
Jamie Barnoff (6B)

Esprit de coopération
Ray Craig (5A), Pierre Geoffrion (5A),
Nicholas Tsoukas (5A),
Luigi Caprio (5B), Patrick Johnson(5B),
Jaryd Zummer (5B), Nathan Vexler(6A),
James McKinney (6B), Nicholas Niro (6B)



Extraits de souvenirs de la Classe Rouge

PAR LA CINQUIÈME

"Quand je suis allé la première journée à la Classe rouge, j'étais vraiment heureux. On a aimé manger la nourriture: c'était vraiment bon. Après, on est allés dans une piste d'hébertisme. Il y avait beaucoup d'épreuves qui étaient amusantes. Comme celle où tu dois traverser une corde et si tu tombes, tu tombes dans la boue. Et je suis tombé dans la boue."
Michael Grover, 5B

"Moi, je ne suis pas tombé du tout. Une autre épreuve était l'homme singe...dans l'homme-singe, tu étais trente pieds dans les airs et tu devais te balancer grâce à tes bras. Si tu tombais, tu tombais de vingt pieds de haut dans un filet et tu rebondissais."
Justin Bourke, 5A

"Quelle estimation!"
Madame Gauthier

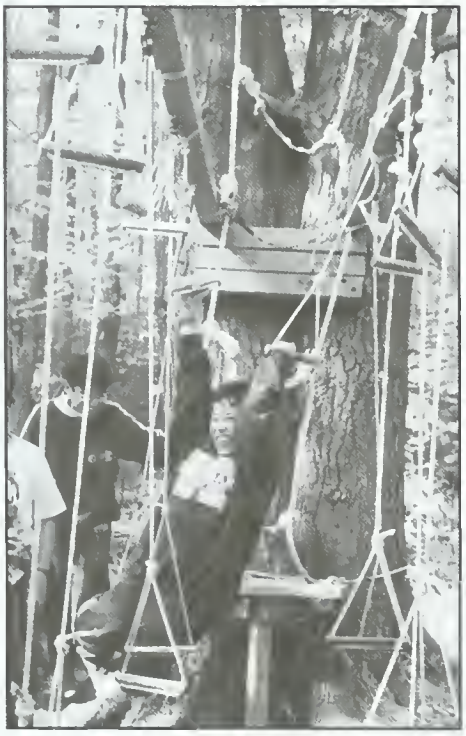


photo par: France Gauthier

Benjamin Marcus, 5A

"Ma dernière journée de la Classe rouge était excellente. Mon groupe, "Les abeilles", a fait un jeu qui s'appelle *Le jeu dont vous êtes le Zéro*. J'aime ce jeu parce que c'était facile de trouver les réponses."
Corey Zalcman, 5B

photo par: France Gauthier

Jamie Rudolph-Zbarsky, 5A

"Ce jeu est assez étrange parce que c'est un peu comme un livre où tu choisis l'aventure. Tu avais besoin d'aller dans les bois en suivant des rubans attachés aux arbres. Pour y arriver, il fallait lire des questions et choisir la bonne réponse."
Alex Weinberg, 5B

"Mon moment le plus drôle était pendant le jeu du Zéro. Il y avait beaucoup de boue et je n'ai pas été très chanceux parce que le sol était gelé. Je suis tombé, mais Martin m'a aidé à retrouver mes souliers dans la boue. Après ça, j'ai pris une douche et j'ai mangé."
Nicholas Tsoukas, 5A

photo par: France Gauthier

Tout le groupe des joyeux lurons de la Cinquième.

"Ce que j'ai le plus aimé, c'est quand j'ai sculpté une pierre à savon. Nous sommes allés en rabaska, c'était difficile. C'était aussi difficile de trouver des pierres à savon dans le ruisseau. Moi, j'ai écrit la première lettre de mon nom sur la pierre. On a aussi frotté la roche avec de la crème. Après, elle était verte. On a fait un trou dans la roche et j'ai fait un collier."
Martin O'Donovan, 5B

"Mon activité préférée c'est l'expérience dans la forêt. On doit marcher seul dans un sentier. Quand je suis arrivé au pont avec mon ami Adam Cieply, il y avait mon professeur qui s'appelle M.Rondeau. J'ai eu très peur quand il a dit: "Hé! les gars, il est plus tard que 10 heures maintenant."
Richard Kwee, 5B

"Selon M.Rondeau, Richard en serait même tombé sur le dos."
Madame Gauthier

FRANÇAIS

Randonnée

CLAUDE CHAINÉ, MARTY BOYLE ET SYLVAIN DECELLES

Le 27 septembre dernier, un groupe privilégié d'étudiants et d'enseignants ont eu la chance de gravir avec audace et tenacité le plus haut sommet de l'État du Vermont: le mont Mansfield, dominant la magnifique région de Stowe et Smuggler's Notch, culmine à 4393 pieds au-dessus du niveau de la mer.

Le temps incertain du vendredi matin a semblé inquiéter les étudiants et les accompagnateurs. En effet, une couverture nuageuse épaisse surplombait le massif tant convoité. N'écoutant que leur courage, les seize intrépides randonneurs ont fait fi de leur crainte et se sont lancés à l'assaut de la montagne. Le sentier, quelque peu humide, a conduit le groupe jusqu'au Taft Lodge, site recherché pour le ravitaillement et la pause-dîner.

Par la suite, les choses se sont corsées. Des éléments naturels contrecarraient la progression des marcheurs. Un brouillard épais masquait la beauté du paysage.

La visibilité était réduite à quelques mètres. De plus, au sommet nous attendait le dieu Éole: des vents furieux de 70 kilomètres/heure rendaient la marche difficile. Le séjour au sommet, dans cet air arctique, fut de courte durée. Le retour vers la base fut agréable, agrémenté de rire, d'éclats de joie et de conversations sans fin.

Le soir, au camping, de magnifiques abris spacieux et aérés invitaient les randonneurs à la détente et à la camaraderie. Des feux de joie ont éclaté spontanément dans les foyers de pierre.

Le lendemain, la pluie nocturne et le temps incertain ont incité les organisateurs à modifier le programme suggéré. C'est donc l'eau à la bouche que tous se sont dirigés vers l'usine de crème glacée "Ben and Jerry". Au programme: visite industrielle de l'usine et dégustation des dernières saveurs concoctées par les fondateurs de cette entreprise célèbre et sympathique.

Et nous sommes revenus...

Le Salon du livre 1996

PAR JONATHAN SNIDERMAN, 10C, FRANÇAIS LANGUE SECONDE

Le 19 novembre dernier, les professeurs de français, Mme Allard-Coutu, Mme Martel, Mme Werbiski ainsi que Mme Rasmussen très enthousiastes, ont amené les élèves de la 10e année au Salon du livre de Montréal. Le Salon du livre de Montréal est la plus grande exposition annuelle de livres au Québec. Cette exposition est si grosse, si importante, que ses organisateurs séparent les lieux: diverses "rues" traversent le salon, chacune portant un nom propre!

Le Salon du livre de Montréal propose plus d'un million de titres à ses visiteurs et on peut acheter les volumes sur place. Vous pouvez trouver tout ce que vous voulez: des romans d'amour aux nouvelles d'horreur, en passant par les bandes dessinées et une collection de CD ROM de grande qualité.

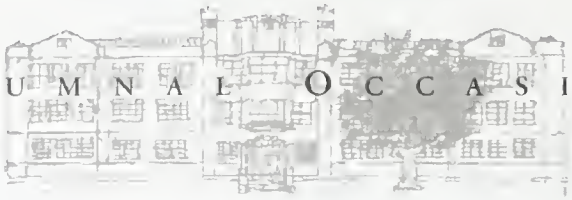
En tout, il y a plus de 600 stands à visiter, ainsi que deux places d'animation qui proposent des heures et des heures de spectacle; il y a de nombreux prix à gagner.

photo par: Nancy Allard-Coutu

Joshua Chinks, 10A, Zubin Mirchandani, 10A, et Ken Ken Say, 10C

Il y a donc de nombreuses choses à voir et à faire au Salon du livre de Montréal.

En somme, je crois que tous les élèves de la 10e année ont apprécié cette expérience et plusieurs d'entre eux ne manqueront pas d'y retourner lorsque l'occasion se représentera!



HALLOWE'EN

Selwyn Ghouls and Goblins Scare Up Laughs

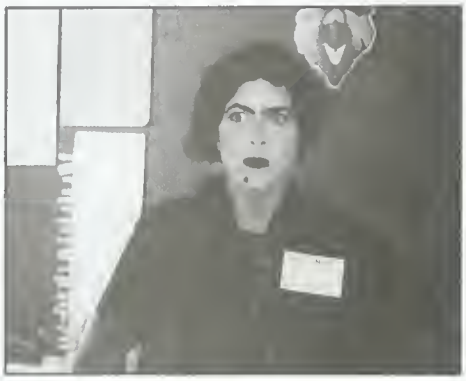


photo by: Maria Tratt

Ms. Jewer as Miss Viola Swamp-the meanest substitute teacher.

photo by: Maria Tratt

Mme Gauthier protects her lunch.

photo by: Maria Tratt

Dracula takes a drink.

photo by: Maria Tratt

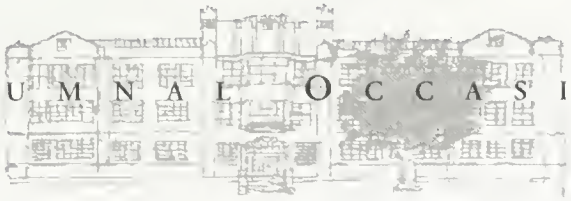
Paul Tsoukas, 4A, one of Mrs. Viau's hidden treasures in her haunted house.

photo by: Maria Tratt

Seeing doubles - a collection of "Dupont et Dupond" with Mme Bourduas.

photo by: Maria Tratt

Some of Selwyn's smallest trick or treaters.



Senior's Dance

- and Bring the House Down Friday, October 25

photo by: Toby No, 11C

Roberto Bellini, 11B, Richard Martz, 11A, Ajay Narasimhadevara, 11A, and the ladies.

photo by: Toby No, 11C

SHS Seniors and a bevy of friends crowd for the camera.

After-School Programme Rides High

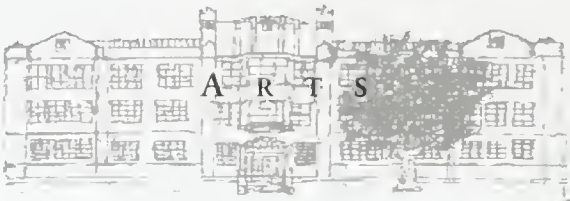
By Brenda Papp

One of the benefits of being registered in the Selwyn House After-School Programme is access to the Pedagogical Day Programmes. On Tuesday, October 15, an excited group of Elementary boys departed for a fun-filled and educational activity day. The first stop was at the Ecomusuem in Ste. Anne de Bellevue, where the group experienced a guided tour of the "Animals of the St. Lawrence Valley." The boys were exposed to a variety of animals in their natural habitats and taught to respect the ecosystems within. We continued on to the Double J. Ranch in Hudson for a breathtaking ride through the woods on horseback. A combination of fresh air and colourful leaves provided an enviable change from the classroom environment. We moved inside to the YMCA in Pointe Claire for lunch and an hour-long swim. The Tarzan rope and covered slide provided a fabulous finale to the day. A tired but happy group of boys returned to Selwyn House and their awaiting parents.

A different agenda of activities filled the Pedagogical Day on Monday, November 18. The morning was spent with a variety of "guests" from Fine Line Serpents. A representative of the company introduced samples of lizards, snakes and turtles, allowing the boys to become informed while overcoming their fears. Even the most timid of our boys befriended these guests! After lunch, the group headed to the Loews Movie Theater to watch the new Disney Movie "Space Jam." An energized group of Michael Jordan fans returned to school and played games in the gym until pick-up time. Keep an eye out for upcoming After-School Programme excursions.

photo by: Brenda Hardy

After-school participants huddle in the sun at the Double J. Ranch - smiles were the preferred expression of the day!



Book Ends

Selwyn Hosts Robert Bateman

By Virginia Ferguson

Yes, it was a dark and stormy night (sorry about that Faux Faulkner Contest Fans), but in spite of it all, an enthusiastic, if small, crowd arrived October 30 to hear Canadian wilderness painter Robert Bateman speak about his newest book of prints and commentary, *Robert Bateman Natural World.* The book, published by Penguin Toronto, was launched in Montreal by Westmount's exclusively Canadian bookstore, The Double Hook. Joan Wilkes, visit coordinator, and Judy Mappin, owner of Double Hook (also mother of Charles '80), chose Selwyn House School as the venu for this evening of conversation, slides and questions. Mr. Bateman was introduced by SHS Head Librarian Virginia Ferguson, who spoke of the artist's life long love of nature and his background of art and geography training at The University of Toronto as well as his parallel career as a high school teacher, and his formative experiences working in Algonquin Park as a park naturalist. During his slide presentation, Mr Bateman spoke movingly of his concern for the future of the natural world if humans do not assume their proper role as intelligent earth stewards and begin to use wisely and conserve the resources of the planet. He discussed his artwork, shared with us views of his home/studio (complete with resident family of river otters), and spoke to the problem of the world's current love affair with technology at the expense of philosophy. Nonetheless, he admitted to having his own Home Page on the Internet designed to bring together like-minded humans to share and discuss ideas, suggestions and philosophy.

After the formal presentation and question period, guests enjoyed amazing chocolate chip cookies, coffee and juice, courtesy of SHS chef Normand Brault, while browsing Double Hook's display of Bateman materials available for purchase. The author very kindly signed his books and chatted with his fans until the crowd finally decided to let him go home shortly after 10:00 P.M.

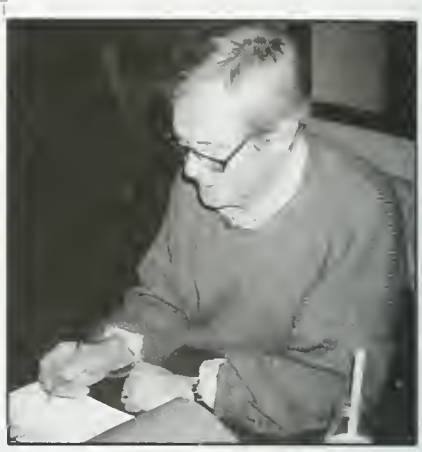


photo by: Anne Marie Snabl

Mr. Bateman signs his latest book.

We all agreed that Canada is very fortunate to claim artist Robert Bateman as a native son, and that SHS was lucky to be able to host the launch of *Natural World.* Double Hook graciously presented a copy of his book to the SHS Library. Mrs. Ferguson is happy to remind members of the SHS community and family that they are welcome to come borrow Bateman's books and pick up a copy of his brochure entitled, *Robert Bateman's Eco TIPS to Ensure Protection and Survival of our Environment.*

Artist's Corner

Grades 7 and 8 Art Students Visit The Group of Seven

By Ellen Pinchuk

If we view a great mountain soaring into the sky, it may excite us, evoke an uplifted feeling within us. There is an interplay of something we see outside of us with our inner response.

The artist takes that response and its feelings and shapes it on canvas with paint so that when finished it contains the experience.

These words were written in 1925 by Lawren Harris, one of The Group of Seven whose works are currently on exhibition at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

The boys in the grades 7 and 8 art classes, in separate visits, were privileged to view the exhibition, and then to participate in painting workshops. Although the students did, of course, not have the same opportunities that Lawren Harris wrote about, just seeing the paintings was inspiring.

The stylized landscapes of the exhibition serve as a springboard for the principles of composition and the choice of colours needed to create a landscape.

After being given extensive background on The Group of Seven, the boys were asked to choose one painting that they wished to sketch.

They were given approximately twenty minutes to complete their sketches in the gallery. The students were then given the opportunity to transform their sketches into paintings. The idea was not to create an exact copy of what they had seen, but to personalize a work of art.

It was extremely interesting to see, first, the wide disparity of painting choices, and then to see the different approaches to the paintings. The students were unable to complete their works at the Museum and are working on them in class. I am eagerly anticipating the day I can hang these true works of art in the halls of Selwyn House.

Rod MacIntyre Brings His Gift for Storytelling to SHS

By Daniel Adler, 8A & Fraser Lunan, 8A

On Friday, November 8, Selwyn House School's Grade 8 classes were enlightened by a visit from Rod MacIntyre. Mr. MacIntyre is a well known and accomplished Canadian author of filmscripts and plays, actor, and director. However, Mr. MacIntyre is best known as an author who currently has a short story book and novel out, titled *Blue Camaro* and *Yuletide Blues* respectively.

When he stood to speak, and his impressive figure towered above the seated students, it was evident that the students did not know quite what to expect. We were all pleasantly surprised as Mr. MacIntyre revealed himself to be a humorous and energetic man. He began by telling the class several stories concerning how and why he became an author. The stories were hilarious and Mr. MacIntyre told them in an illuminating manner, even acting them out. After this, Mr. MacIntyre began to read the beginning of one of his short stories in *Yuletide Blues*. The story was interesting and humorous. A question and answer period came next during which time students were allowed to express their feelings. The strong show of hands in the audience reflected the students' genuine interest and proved the success of the visit.

But as the saying goes, all good things must come to an end, and this was no exception. As the students shuffled off to their next classes, Mr. MacIntyre proceeded on to what we were all sure was an exciting new destination.

photo by: Maria Tratt

Mr. MacIntyre illustrates his point with sweeping and dramatic jestures.

Une visite au Planétarium de Montréal

Par Thomas Constantinescu, 7B, et Andrew Sniderman, 7A, langue maternelle

Le jour de l'Halloween, la classe de septième année langue maternelle est allée au Planétarium de Montréal. Nous avons tout planifié auparavant: le parcours et l'endroit pour le repas du midi. Cette excursion faisait suite aux thèmes que nous avions étudiés en classe pendant le mois d'octobre, c'est-à-dire l'Halloween, les fantômes et les revenants.

Arrrivés là-bas, nous avons fait un bref tour de l'exposition permanente: À ciel ouvert. Par la suite, nous sommes entrés dans une grande salle pour voir le spectacle de l'Halloween. Il a commencé par une explication visuelle de quelques événements astronomiques qui se produisent entre l'automne et l'hiver. Je dois avouer, néanmoins, que la partie la plus intéressante du spectacle a été l'écoute de l'histoire de l'Halloween sur écran géant.

Saviez-vous, par exemple, que l'Halloween a commencé en Irlande quand les Celtes, il y a à peu près deux mille ans, ont répandu la croyance selon laquelle les esprits des morts revenaient sur terre pour voler un corps vivant pour vivre de nouveau? Les Celtes se déguisaient horriblement pour effrayer les esprits. Ils abandonnaient leur maison et laissaient des fruits à l'entrée pour que les esprits les prennent et partent. C'est comme ça que la coutume des costumes et des bonbons a commencé. Pour terminer, des contes d'horreur ont été racontés et après le spectacle, nous avons participé à un atelier sur les dinosaures. Cet atelier nous a donné le goût d'aller au spectacle qui a présentement lieu au Planétarium. Il s'agit maintenant de convaincre notre professeur de nous y amener...

Après la visite, Mme Allard-Coutu nous a amenés chez MacDonald pour le repas du midi. Après le dessert chez Tim Horton, nous sommes retournés à l'école dans un autobus rempli d'élèves qui ne voulaient pas que cette sortie se termine. Merci, Mme Allard-Coutu!

photo par: Nancy Allard-Coutu

Patrick Guest, 7B, et Christopher Bryson, 7B, participent à l'atelier sur les dinosaures.

I Debate; Therefore, I Am

By Mischa & Ilia Auerbach-Ziogas

photo by: Maria Tratt

Richard Martz, 11A, Ms. Palko, and Mischa Auerbach-Ziogas, 11C

The debating programme at Selwyn House School has developed into two complementary programmes at the middle school and high schools. At the high school level, the debating programme functions as a voluntary arts option, and, at the middle school level it is an obligatory half-year programme that all middle school students eventually have the pleasure of attending. In debating class, we learn the basics of parliamentary and academic debating and practice our skills with weekly in-class debates. For those interested, there are extra-curricular meetings during which we prepare for tournaments.

Selwyn House will have the pleasure of attending numerous debating tournaments this year, giving us the opportunity to "strut our stuff" at a number of venues both in and around Montreal. Our most recent excursion was to the McGill High School Debating Tournament that was held at McGill University on the weekend of November 8. The McGill tournament is the largest and oldest high school debating tournament in North America and, if our results there are any indication, Selwyn House should be very competitive on the debating circuit this year. The Selwyn House team of Mischa Auerbach-Ziogas and Richard Martz placed third in a field of one hundred and ten teams and Mischa came in best speaker out of two hundred and twenty participants, the second year in a row that he has won this honour.

We of the debating programme are pleased to announce the arrival of our new leader. Ms. Palko, a former English teacher and Debating coach from St. George's School, has joined the Selwyn House faculty and is currently single-handedly supervising the entire debating programme at both the middle and senior school levels. Ms. Palko not only helps us develop our arguments and improve our style, but also spends a great deal of her free time accompanying us to tournaments. This exceedingly competent (if diminutive) debating coach moonlights as the president of the Quebec Student Debating Association. Using her years of experience as the coach for the provincial teams, Ms. Palko valiantly attempts to teach us only the most important strategies of the debating world, beginning with "How Not To Bite Your Own Tongue While Speaking."

The Grapes of Wrath

By Guillaume Gouin-Descarries

On Friday, October 25, Grade 10 visited John Abbott College in Ste Anne de Bellevue to view a play performed by actors studying at the College.

The play, an adaptation of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, recounts the struggle of one family's journey from Oklahoma to California during the depression in the nineteen-thirties and of their hopes for finding a job after being thrown off their land.

Grade 10 is currently reading the book, and the English department thought it a good idea to put what we were studying into a more accessible and interactive context. The play, well performed by a cast of talented young actors, was thoroughly enjoyed. The addition of musical interludes was interesting and appropriate, adding depth to the play. Attending a live performance went a long way to helping us picture the suffering that was thrust upon the mid-western population of the United States during those desperate times.

The trip was a success, and many thanks to those who made it possible.

T.O. Hosts Public Speaking Competition

By Kathi Biggs

The International Independent School's Public Speaking League competition was held this year at Branksome Hall School in Toronto from October 23-28.

This annual tournament provided an opportunity for the Selwyn House team of Richard Martz, 11A, Mischa Auerbach-Ziogas, 11C, Andrew Bourne, 10C, and alternate Mark Turetsky, 10B, to compete against top orators from across Canada, the US, England, Argentina and Cypress.

The four Selwyn students competed in activities as varied as Parliamentary and Cross Examination debates, Persuasive, After-Dinner, Extemporaneous and Impromptu Speaking, Interpretive Reading, Dramatic Interpretation, and a Newscast.

Mischa Auerbach-Ziogas, 11C, Andrew Bourne, 10C, Richard Martz, 11A, Ms. Biggs, and Mark Turetsky, 10B

Two members of our team placed in the top five in three events and, with a total of 55 participants, the School has much to be proud of. Congratulations to Richard who ranked fourth in Persuasive Speaking and to Mischa for capturing second place in both the Parliamentary Debate and Extemporaneous Speaking - a truly outstanding achievement.

All involved gained from the international flavour of their social interaction, and time off was well spent: a visit to the theatre and the Sky Dome, shopping, dinner at the Hard Rock Café.

From every perspective the competition was a success as well as an invaluable experience.

Seniors Get a Lesson in Style

By Bill Bedard

photo by: Toby No, 11C

Mrs. Viau lunges to block the opponents.

The teachers and students squared off for bragging rights in their annual touch football game. Organizers of the event say the cool weather and rain was the reason for the poor attendance. The fan who did manage to find the game was treated to a spectacular display of talent and courage.

The teachers opened the scoring early with a touchdown pass from QB Tom Downey to Warren Miskell. These two would link up several times during the game to produce four of the teachers' seven touchdowns. For his stellar play, Miskell was later voted the game MVP. Mary Ellen Viau, Jason Barr, and Marty Boyle also took turns in the QB slot.

Without his regular receivers, QB Sean McKinnon had a difficult time. In frustration, he gave up his spot, trying his hand at wide receiver. Those who took his place, including Toby No and Chris Eich, discovered how difficult to throw an accurate pass can be.

Several of their passes were picked off by "Skid" Bedard who promises to wear cleats next year so that he is able to run with the ball.

Michael Downey deserves a special "thank you" for organizing the day, as does Morgan Lackenbauer for his unbiased officiating. It was a fabulous day for football, and the teachers are enjoying the bragging rights they won.

SHS Rowers in Top Form

Again This Year The Team Emerges as the Best in its League

By Brad Moffat

Victors lift up the tool of their triumph as Coach Moffat looks on.

The rowing team had a successful season, with many members from all categories earning medals in the McGill invitational regatta this fall.

Training on the water began early. After less than a week of introduction, the crews were on the water pulling oars under the watchful eyes of Mr. Moffat and student coach Ms. Larivière. Technique improved quickly as crews practiced on the beautiful 2km course on Ilê Nôtre Dame.

On race day we put five boats into the water: two eights, two fours, and a single. The single, sculled by Ned Maloney, 9B, flew to first place virtually uncontested. The senior eight jumped to an early lead which it lengthened steadily to a gold medal win. The eight was stroked by veteran, Asim Khan, 10A, with novice coxswain, Alexander Black, 8C. The crew also boasted veteran brother Hans Black, 10A, and powerhouse Ian Ratzer, 10B. The rest of the crew were novices: Alexei Anikine, 11C, Colin Cummins, 11B, David O'Brien, 11C, Mischa Auerbach-Ziogas, 11C, and Eitan Yane, 9C.

Despite drawing an uncoxed four that had the rudder broken off, the senior four placed first in the GMMA circuit. The crew was stroked by double threat man Asim Khan. He was backed by Hans Black, Alexei Anikine and Ian Ratzer. They were hotly contested only by the new Marianopolis team. This was not so surprising as fifty percent of their crew were Selwyn House veterans: Tim Martoni and Mark Speilman. Our junior four had terrible problems with a boat that had a broken skeg and a bent rudder. They put a brave face on a finish that did not allow them to show their technique.

Our team was the largest Selwyn House rowing team on record, with many new members coming from Grade 8 and 9. The excellent victories this season make Selwyn House the favorite to win the first ever GMAA school banner for rowing in the spring. The enjoyment of the sport and the fine training of these young men bodes well for the future of rowing at Selwyn House.

Rowing Programme Receives Generous Donation

photo by: Maria Tiatt

Mischa Auerbach-Ziogas, 11C, tries out the ergometer while sporting one of the three heart rate monitors.

A heartfelt thanks goes out to Dr. Black for his generous contribution to the rowing programme at Selwyn. His donation has enabled the School to purchase an ergometer, three heart rate monitors and a computer link for the monitors. These have helped elevate the profile of rowing. The new additions are much appreciated and will be put to good use by rowers and coaches alike.

The Argyle Shop

Happy Holidays!

REGULAR HOURS

MONDAY
7:45 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.
TUESDAY
7:45 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY
- CLOSED -
THURSDAY
1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
FRIDAY
- CLOSED -

The Curtain Falls on Selwyn Soccer Season - But Not Without Well Earned Applause

By Richard Martz

The senior soccer season was one full of triumph and disappointment. With only six players of age signed up, the team was made up in large part by midget-age players, but inexperience is not what characterized this team. Through the expert instruction of Coach Paoletti and the on field leadership from our seasoned veterans Richard Martz, Camillo Durana, and captain Roberto Bellini, our young players proceeded to elevate their game to another level and proved that they truly belonged.

We began the season with a grueling 3-2 loss to Royal Vale, but after that things improved. We won our next three games, which included a seemingly effortless 4-1 win over favoured Lachine, and a hard fought but bittersweet 1-0 victory over Royal Vale on a second-half goal by Richard Martz, in a game where defender Jamie Govan broke his leg.

This year's Canadian Association of Independent Schools under 19 senior soccer tournament was hosted by Hillfield Strathallen College in Hamilton. Over the course of four days, we played five games. This was a tournament of mixed emotions because, although we played well, we often came up short. We were tied 1-1 at the half before losing to Royal St. Georges College, a team that made it to the finals of the tournament. We ended on a positive note, however, with a convincing 5-0 win over Armbrae in which Camillo Durana potted the only hat trick of the season. Special mentions must go out to Kevin Riggs for his stellar goaltending throughout the tournament, and to Roberto Bellini who was playing in his third under 19 tournament.

We won our last game of the regular season against Lasalle Catholic where sweeper Roberto Bellini scored his first and only goal of the season. We matched up against a favoured, confident, and unbeaten Loyola team in the semifinals. In an intense contest, the score remained knotted at 0-0 through overtime before we fell to defeat in penalty shots.

It was all in all a great season. Our top scorers for the year were Camillo Durana with 7 goals, and Richard Martz with 10. Honorable mention goes out to midfielder Roberto Gomez, stopper Shoaib Rabbani, keeper and sweeper John Katiforis, and fullback Zubin Mirchandani for solid all-around play all season. This season marks the end of our captain Roberto Bellini's Selwyn House soccer career. In the words of Coach Paoletti, Roberto leaves as one of the three best sweepers in our history. It was an enjoyable and emotional year, and, it being my last as well, I will leave with fond memories. Thanks to everybody for a great season.

Football

By Morgan Lackenbauer, 11A

This year the Selwyn House Senior Football team had a somewhat disappointing season, winning only two games. However, the Gryphons played very well and were extremely competitive. The season included resounding wins over Collège Montréal and Alexander Galt, and in their final game of the season, the Gryphons lost to the eventual league champions, Collège Nôtre Dâme, by only six points.

The team was led by the excellent play of quarterback Sean McKinnon. It also had an exceptional passing attack with offensive stars Ian Marquis, Mike Durcak, and Kevin Boyle on the receiving end of Sean's passes. Colin No continued to shine on offense, with his blocking leading the way to many touchdowns.

Defensively, the team relied heavily on its veteran linebackers, Toby No and Igor Lauw-Bastien. Although defense experienced problems over the season, there was none as crippling as the injuries to key players. Consequently, it was encouraging to see how much the team improved despite this setback.

Overall, the team was devastated by the sheer number of injuries and the subsequent loss of so many starters. Star linebacker Tomek Nishijima missed several games due to a shoulder injury, as did the young and talented Alexandre Brulé-Brosseau. Team captain and star running-back James Brooks had his season come to an abrupt end with a similar injury. His loss was especially difficult to overcome because his strength and leadership were impossible to replace.

Regardless, the season was a success for which we have to thank coaches Mike Maurovich and Mike Downey and all the assistant coaches for their support and guidance.

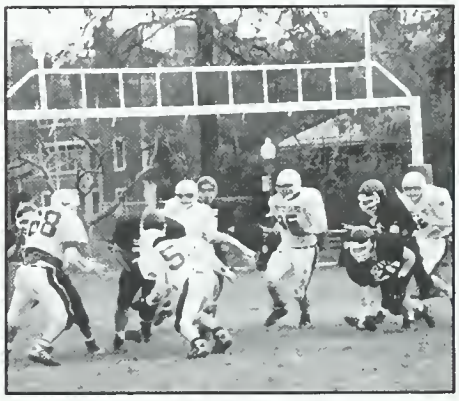


photo by: Maria Tatt

SHS vs College Notre Dame

SPORTS

GR. 7 SOCCER & FOOTBALL

By Steve Mitchell

Our Grade 7 teams participate in competitions which are designed to develop the experience of each student so he may have the option to play at higher levels later in high school.

Our Grade 7 soccer successfully made it to the Bantam Division III Championship game against Westmount High School. After a strong performance, the game ended 1-0 in Westmount's fallout. Coach Alfie Paoletti was extremely pleased with his team's development and performance.

Marty Boyle and Colin Boyle guided our baby gryphon football programme through another successful and positive season. The players participated in three football jamborees, as well as exhibition games against Bishop's College School and College Jean-Eudes. Congratulations on a very successful season.

BANTAM FOOTBALL 1996

By Andrew Johnston /Captain

The Bantam Football team had a successful year under coaches Steve Mitchell and Tom Nicoll. Finishing 6-2, our regular season was highlighted by three consecutive wins, two against LCC, both of which were won in the final minutes of play. Having finished in second place, we were scheduled to play LCC in the league semi-finals. Despite a half-time lead, we eventually lost to our arch-rivals.

The team was carried all year by the strength of its veterans. Justin McManus (the team's leading scorer) and Andrew Johnston (the team's leading defensive player and fullback), Alex San Gregorio, Morgan Ball, Tristan Schulz, Seth Ross, Chris Politis, Derek Simon and Joel Anthony all carried the team with their leadership and skills. The team looks to do well next year with a strong group of returning players, including Josh Mitchell, Timothy Ho and Ben Spencer.

The Parents' Newsletter

"The Parents' Newsletter" is published 4 times a year by the Records and Development Office.

In the interest of protecting the environment, the newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

If you have any suggestions or corrections, please do not hesitate to contact the editor, Maria Tratt, by:
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by fax: (514) 931-6118
or e-mail: trattmar@selwyn.ca

Selwyn Runners Take 1st & 2nd Place

By Bruce Glasspoole

Cross country runners enjoyed a fair measure of success this fall. Spotlight runners Pablo Durana (Grade 8) and Andrew Bourne (Grade 10) brought home the hardware. Pablo scored victories in the Bantam category in races at Beaconsfield, John Rennie, and Lindsay Place High while Andrew began the season with a Midget win at Beaconsfield. In the GMAA Championship Races on Mount Royal, Bourne and Durana placed first and second respectively in the Midget boys race in a field of 99 runners. Untimely injuries to Michael O'Gorman and Christopher Maughan denied our Midget boys a certain team championship - the boys settled for silver medals. Alexander Bellemare-Davis and Pablo Durana represented Selwyn House as GMAA team members at the Quebec Provincial Championships in Papineauville on October 27. Selwyn's runners now await the track season which gets underway in April.

Alexander Bellemare-Davis, 9A, Andrew Bourne, 10C, Christopher Maughan, 9C, and Pablo Durana, 8A, poised to pounce at the GMAA championship race on Mount Royal, Oct. 8.